

In the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An electrical connector comprising a connector body including a tubular socket configured to receive an electrical conductor, clamping means arranged to secure the electrical conductor within the socket, and a preformed tubular socket insert fitting within the tubular socket so as to reduce the effective size of the socket, wherein the socket insert is ~~tubular and~~ is adapted to be deformed by the clamping means into retaining engagement with the electrical conductor and wherein the clamping means comprises at least one clamping bolt held in at least one respective threaded bore ~~bore~~s in the connector body such that the at least one clamping bolt extends into the socket so as to clamp, via the socket insert, an electrical conductor inserted in the socket against an opposing surface of the socket.

2. (Previously Presented) A connector as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the socket insert is aluminum.

3. (Previously Presented) A connector as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the socket insert has at least one of a castellated or corrugated profile on an outside surface thereof.

4. (Original) A connector as claimed in Claim 3, wherein the socket has a castellated profile.

5. (Previously Presented) A connector as claimed in Claim 1, wherein an internal surface of the tubular socket insert has at least one of serrations or tooth-like formations.

6. (Previously Presented) A connector as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the socket is a bore of substantially circular cross-section.

7. (Canceled).

8. (Previously Presented) A connector as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the at least

one clamping bolt includes a shearable head that shears off when a torque applied to the at shearable head exceeds a predetermined value.

9. (Currently amended) A socket insert for an electrical connector having a socket in which, in use, an electrical conductor is received, the socket insert comprising a preformed tubular and deformable member having $[[a]]$ at least one of a castellated or corrugated profile on an outside surface thereof.

10. (Previously Presented) A socket insert as claimed in Claim 9 wherein the socket insert comprises aluminum.

11. (Previously Presented) A socket insert as claimed in Claim 9 wherein the socket insert has a castellated profile on an outside surface thereof.

12. (Previously Presented) A socket insert as claimed in Claim 9, wherein an internal surface of the tubular socket insert includes at least one of serrations or tooth-like formations.

13. (Currently amended) An electrical connector comprising:
a connector body defining a socket therein;
a clamping member coupled to the connector body adapted to secure an electrical conductor within the socket; and
a preformed tubular socket insert positioned within the socket adjacent the clamping member, the socket insert being configured to be deformed by the clamping member into retaining engagement with the electrical conductor within the socket.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously Presented) The electrical connector of Claim 14 wherein the socket insert has a castellated profile on an outside surface thereof.

16. (Previously Presented) The electrical connector of Claim 14 wherein the socket insert has a corrugated profile on an outside surface thereof.

17. (Previously Presented) The electrical connector of Claim 14 wherein the electrical conductor is received within the tubular socket insert to position the socket insert between the clamping member and the electrical connector and between an opposing surface of the socket relative to the clamping member and the electrical conductor.

18. (Previously Presented) The electrical connector of Claim 17 wherein an internal surface of the socket insert includes at least one of serrations or tooth-like formations.

19. (Previously Presented) The electrical connector of Claim 13 wherein the socket insert comprises aluminum.

20. (Previously Presented) The electrical connector of Claim 13 wherein the clamping member comprises at least one bolt, the at least one bolt being positioned in a threaded bore in the connector body.

21. (Currently amended) A socket insert for an electrical connector, the socket insert comprising a preformed tubular member configured to be movably positioned within an internal socket of the electrical connector and to be deformed by a clamping member of the electrical connector into retaining engagement with an electrical conductor within the socket insert, the socket insert having a diameter selected to reduce an effective diameter of the socket to reduce eccentricity of positioning of the electrical conductor within the electrical connector.

22. (Currently amended) An electrical connector comprising:
a connector body defining a socket therein;
a clamping member coupled to the connector body adapted to secure an electrical

conductor within the socket;

a substantially tubular preformed socket insert positioned within the socket adjacent the clamping member, the socket insert being configured to be deformed by the clamping member into retaining engagement with the electrical conductor within the socket; and

wherein the electrical conductor is received within the tubular socket insert to position the socket insert between the clamping member and the electrical connector and between an opposing surface of the socket relative to the clamping member and the electrical conductor.

23. (Previously Presented) The electrical connector of Claim 22 wherein the socket insert has at least one of a castellated or corrugated profile on an outer surface thereof.

24. (Previously Presented) The electrical connector of Claim 13 wherein the socket insert is movably positioned in the socket when not contacted by the clamping member.

25. (Previously Presented) The electrical connector of Claim 24 wherein the socket insert has a diameter selected to reduce an effective diameter of the socket to reduce eccentricity of positioning of the electrical conductor within the socket.

26. (Previously Presented) The electrical connector of Claim 22 wherein the socket insert is movably positioned in the socket when not contacted by the clamping member.

27. (Previously Presented) The electrical connector of Claim 26 wherein the socket insert has a diameter selected to reduce an effective diameter of the socket to reduce eccentricity of positioning of the electrical conductor within the socket.

28. (Previously Presented) The electrical connector of Claim 26 wherein the socket insert has a diameter less than a diameter of the socket to allow the socket insert to be movably positioned in the socket when not contacted by the clamping member.

29. (Previously Presented) The socket insert of Claim 21 wherein the socket insert has a diameter selected to be less than a diameter of the internal socket of the electrical connector to allow the socket insert to be movably positioned in the socket when not contacted by the clamping member.

30. (New) The electrical connector of Claim 1 wherein the preformed tubular socket insert comprises an extruded tubular structure.

31. (New) The electrical connector of Claim 1 wherein the preformed tubular socket insert comprises a circumferentially continuous tubular structure with no overlying layers.

32. (New) The electrical connector of Claim 1 wherein the socket insert is configured to reduce eccentricity of positioning of the electrical conductor within the socket.